

## REMARKS

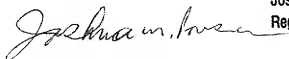
The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

The amendment herein is made to place the application in better form and to ensure the features recited therein are not interpreted as means-plus-function or steps-of limitations.

The amendments to the claims made in this amendment have not been made to overcome the prior art, and thus, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Toru KAWAGUCHI



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